

ipcc

INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON climate change

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ADMISSION OF OBSERVER ORGANIZATIONS

(Submitted by the Secretary of the IPCC)

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ADMISSION OF OBSERVER ORGANIZATIONS¹

Status of IPCC Observer Organizations

In compliance with the IPCC Policy and Process for Admitting Observer Organizations (hereafter the “IPCC Observer Policy”) which was adopted at the 25th Session of the IPCC and amended at its 31st and 35th Session, the Panel currently has 166 Observer Organizations. The list of IPCC Observer Organizations is attached as **Annex 1, Tables 1 - 4**.

Annex 1, Table A lists new applications received by the Secretariat from organizations to obtain IPCC observer status. Since the 52nd Session of the IPCC (Paris, France, 24-28 February 2020), the following eight organizations have requested IPCC observer status:

(1) the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (EAERE); (2) the Integrated Carbon Observation System European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ICOS ERIC); (3) the Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC); (4) the Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA); (5) the African Academy of Sciences (AAS); (6) International Actuarial Association (IAA); (7) Office for Climate Education (OCE); and (8) King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center (KAPSARC).

Five of the organizations, the EAERE, ICOS ERIC, ICC, IAA and KAPSARC, are already accredited as observer organizations with UNFCCC, one organization, the EIA, is accredited with both UNEP and the UNFCCC, and therefore in accordance with Rule I.5 of the IPCC Observer Policy, these do not have to submit additional documentation concerning their organization.

In accordance with Rule II.1, the two other organizations presented here, the African Academy of Sciences (AAS) and the Office for Climate Education (OCE), have submitted necessary background documentation concerning their organizations. The African Academy of Sciences (AAS) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization established in 1994. The AAS aims to drive sustainable development in Africa through science, technology and innovation via its agenda setting, funding and programme management platform, the Alliance for Accelerating Excellence in Science in Africa (AESIA), created by AAS, NEPAD Agency and global partners. Climate Change and the environment is a strategic focus area of the AAS strategy, and priority setting for African research in this area is one of the AAS’ core mandates. The Office for Climate Education (OCE) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization established in 1994. The OCE is a centre under the auspices of UNESCO, based in Paris, aimed at promoting climate change education worldwide. To ensure that educators, and in particular teachers and teacher trainers, can base their teaching on a consensual, complete and up-to date scientific knowledge, the Office for Climate Education provides them with “Summaries for teachers”, accompanying the IPCC reports. These educational resources are prepared in close collaboration with a network of scientific and pedagogical experts around the world, including IPCC authors and members of the technical support units (groups 1, 2 and 3).

The four columns on the right of **Table A** indicate respectively the relevance of the organization’s objectives to IPCC activities, if the organization already has observer status with UNFCCC, WMO or UNEP, the date of first application by letter or e-mail, and the Secretariat’s view on the adequacy of the application with respect to IPCC’s policy on the matter.

Furthermore, there is one pending application as shown in **Annex 1, Table 5**.²

¹ This agenda item was added to this 53rd (bis) Session’s agenda after the opening of the Session by the request of one delegation to consider accreditation of observer organizations that had already received positive consideration by the IPCC Bureau.

² The organization has been a candidate for obtaining IPCC observer status since 2008. To date, the Panel has not been able to reach consensus on this candidature.

The IPCC Observer Policy is attached for easy reference in **Annex 2**.

In accordance with Rules II.5 and II.6 of the IPCC Observer Policy, the requests were submitted to the IPCC Bureau for its review. Subsequently, upon the Bureau's positive consideration during its 58th Session (Singapore, 24 – 25 October 2019), 59th Session (Electronic Session, 13-14 October 2020) and 60th Session (Electronic Session, 16-18 March 2021), the requests are now presented to the Session of the Panel for acceptance.

TABLE A – List of new applications of organizations for IPCC Observer Status (8)

| No. | Name of organization | Relevance to IPCC | Observer of UNFCCC, WMO or UNEP | Date of Application | Secretariat's Proposal |
|-----------------------------|--|-------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| New applications (8) | | | | | |
| 1 | European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (EAERE) | Y | Y | L 03/02/20 | Y |
| 2 | Integrated Carbon Observation System European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ICOS ERIC) | Y | Y | L 14/04/20 | Y |
| 3 | Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) | Y | Y | L 10/02/20 | Y |
| 4 | The Environmental Investigation Agency | Y | Y | L 18/09/20 | Y |
| 5 | The African Academy of Sciences | Y | N | L 22/04/20 | Y |
| 6 | The International Actuarial Association | Y | Y | L 27/10/20 | Y |
| 7 | The Office for Climate Education | Y | N | L 14/01/21 | Y |
| 8 | King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center | Y | Y | L 24/02/21 | Y |

LIST OF IPCC OBSERVER ORGANIZATIONS (166 as of 26 March 2021)

TABLE 1 - List of UN Bodies and Organizations as Participating Organizations (30)

| No. | Name of organization | Relevance to IPCC | Observer of UNFCCC |
|------------|--|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (LRTAP) | Y | Y |
| 2 | UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific | Y | Y |
| 3 | UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia | Y | Y |
| 4 | UN Economic Commission for Africa | Y | Y |
| 5 | UN Economic Commission for Europe | Y | Y |
| 6 | UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean | Y | Y |
| 7 | Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) | Y | Y |
| 8 | Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC/UNESCO) | Y | Y |
| 9 | International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) | Y | Y |
| 10 | International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) | Y | Y |
| 11 | International Labour Organization (ILO) | Y | Y |
| 12 | International Maritime Organization (IMO) | Y | Y |
| 13 | Ozone Secretariat (Sec. for the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and for the Montreal Protocol) | Y | Y |
| 14 | Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) | Y | Y |
| 15 | Secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) | Y | N.A. |
| 16 | United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) | Y | Y |
| 17 | United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) | Y | Y |
| 18 | United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) | Y | Y |
| 19 | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) | Y | Y |
| 20 | United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) | Y | Y |
| 21 | United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) | Y | Y |
| 22 | United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) | Y | Y |
| 23 | United Nations University (UNU) | Y | Y |
| 24 | World Bank | Y | Y |
| 25 | World Food Programme (WFP) | Y | Y |
| 26 | World Health Organization (WHO) | Y | Y |
| 27 | World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) | Y | Y |
| 28 | World Meteorological Organization (WMO) | Y | Y |
| 29 | World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) | Y | Y |
| 30 | Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) | Y | Y |

TABLE 2 - List of IPCC Observer Organizations - IGO's (25)

| No. | Name of organization | Relevance to IPCC | Observer of UNFCCC |
|-------------|--|-------------------|--------------------|
| IGOs | | | |
| 1 | African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP Group) | Y | Y |
| 2 | African Center of Meteorological Applications to Development (ACMAD) | Y | Y |
| 3 | African Union Commission (AUC) | Y | Y |
| 4 | Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) | Y | Y |
| 5 | European Space Agency (ESA) | Y | Y |
| 6 | European Union (EU) | Y | Y* |
| 7 | Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases (GRA) | Y | N |
| 8 | Green Climate Fund (GCF) | Y | N.A. |
| 9 | Group on Earth Observations (GEO) | Y | Y |
| 10 | Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI) | Y | Y |
| 11 | Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) | Y | Y |
| 12 | Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS) | Y | N |
| 13 | International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) | Y | Y |
| 14 | International Energy Agency (IEA) | Y | Y |
| 15 | International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) | Y | Y |
| 16 | International Organization for Migration (IOM) | Y | Y |
| 17 | International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) | Y | Y |
| 18 | International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) | Y | Y |
| 19 | Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) | Y | Y |
| 20 | Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) | Y | Y |
| 21 | Pacific Community | Y | N |
| 22 | Preparatory Commission for the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) | Y | N |
| 23 | South Centre | Y | Y |
| 24 | South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) | Y | Y |
| 25 | The Ramsar Convention Bureau | Y | Y |

* Party to UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol

TABLE 3 - List of IPCC Observer Organizations - NGOs (110)

| No. | Name of organization | Relevance to IPCC | Observer of UNFCCC |
|-------------|---|-------------------|--------------------|
| NGOs | | | |
| 1 | Action Jeunesse pour le Développement (AJED-Congo) | Y | Y |
| 2 | African Network for a Climate Community (ANCC) | Y | Y |
| 3 | Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy | Y | Y |
| 4 | American Psychological Association (APA) | Y | N |
| 5 | Associaton Carré Geo & Environment (Cameroon) | Y | Y |
| 6 | C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group | Y | Y |
| 7 | Campaign for a Hydrogen Economy (UK) | Y | Y |
| 8 | Canadian Nuclear Association | Y | Y |
| 9 | CARE International (Denmark) | Y | Y |
| 10 | Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) | Y | Y |
| 11 | Carnegie Council | Y | N |
| 12 | Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) | Y | Y |
| 13 | Climate Action Network – Europe (CAN-Europe) | Y | Y |
| 14 | Climate Action Network – International (CAN-I) | Y | Y |
| 15 | Climate Alliance | Y | Y |
| 16 | Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) | Y | Y |
| 17 | Centre for International Studies, Cambridge University (UK) | Y | Y |
| 18 | CICERO Center for International Climate and Environmental Research (Norway) | Y | Y |
| 19 | College of the Atlantic (UK) | Y | Y |
| 20 | Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centers (CGIAR) | Y | Y |
| 21 | Dalit Welfare Association (Nepal) | Y | Y |
| 22 | Ecology Center | Y | Y |
| 23 | Energy Research Austria | Y | Y |
| 24 | Environmental Defense (USA) | Y | Y |
| 25 | ETC Group (Action Group on Erosion, Technology and Concentration) | Y | Y |
| 26 | European Climate Foundation (ECF) | Y | Y |
| 27 | European Marine Board | Y | N |
| 28 | Food and Water Watch | Y | Y |
| 29 | Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) | Y | Y |
| 30 | Future Earth International | Y | N |
| 31 | Gender CC – Women for Climate Justice | Y | Y |
| 32 | GERMANWATCH (Germany) | Y | Y |
| 33 | Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) | Y | Y |

| | | | |
|----|--|---|---|
| 34 | Global Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) Institute (Australia) | Y | Y |
| 35 | Global Change Impact Studies Centre (GCISC) | Y | N |
| 36 | Global Climate Observing System (GCOS)* | Y | Y |
| 37 | Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC) | Y | Y |
| 38 | Green Cross International | Y | Y |
| 39 | GreenFacts (Belgium) | Y | Y |
| 40 | Greenpeace | Y | Y |
| 41 | Greenplanet (India & Canada) | Y | Y |
| 42 | Heinrich Boell Foundation | Y | Y |
| 43 | Humane Society International (HSI) | Y | Y |
| 44 | IEA Greenhouse Gas R&D Programme (IEAGHG) | Y | N |
| 45 | Imperial College London (UK) | Y | Y |
| 46 | Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS) | Y | N |
| 47 | Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP) | Y | Y |
| 48 | Institute for Environment and Development Sustainability (IEDS) | Y | Y |
| 49 | Institute of Energy Policy and Research, Universiti Tenaga Nasional (UNITEN, Malaysia) | Y | Y |
| 50 | Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST) (UK) | Y | N |
| 51 | Instituto Bem Ambiental (IBAM) | Y | N |
| 52 | InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) | Y | N |
| 53 | Intermon Oxfam (on behalf of Oxfam International) | Y | Y |
| 54 | International Air Transport Association (IATA) | Y | Y |
| 55 | International Aluminium Institute (IAI) | Y | Y |
| 56 | International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) | Y | Y |
| 57 | International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) | Y | Y |
| 58 | International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) | Y | Y |
| 59 | International Council for Science (ICSU) | Y | Y |
| 60 | International Development Research Centre (IDRC) | Y | Y |
| 61 | International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP) | Y | N |
| 62 | International Hydropower Association (IHA) | Y | Y |
| 63 | International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) | Y | Y |
| 64 | International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) | Y | Y |
| 65 | International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) | Y | Y |
| 66 | International Policy Network (USA) | Y | Y |
| 67 | International Social Science Council (ISSC) | Y | Y |
| 68 | International START Secretariat ** | Y | N |
| 69 | International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) | Y | Y |
| 70 | Iuventum (Germany) | Y | Y |
| 71 | London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) | Y | Y |
| 72 | Many Strong Voices (MSV) | Y | N |
| 73 | Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice | Y | Y |

| | | | |
|-----|---|---|---|
| 74 | Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) (USA) | Y | Y |
| 75 | New World Hope Organization (NWHO) | Y | Y |
| 76 | OASIS (Serbia) | Y | Y |
| 77 | Organisation of Development and Human Rights of Cameroon (GICAR-CAM) | Y | Y |
| 78 | Overseas Development Institute (ODI) (UK) | Y | Y |
| 79 | ParlAmericas | Y | N |
| 80 | Princeton University (USA) | Y | Y |
| 81 | Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC) | Y | Y |
| 82 | Research and Development Centre, Nepal | Y | Y |
| 83 | Royal Meteorological Society (UK) | Y | Y |
| 84 | Rutgers University (USA) | Y | Y |
| 85 | Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF) | Y | Y |
| 86 | School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA), Indiana University (USA) | Y | N |
| 87 | Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR) | Y | N |
| 88 | SILVA (Arbres, Forêts et Sociétés) | Y | Y |
| 89 | SouthSouthNorth Projects Africa (SSN) | Y | Y |
| 90 | Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) (Sweden) | Y | Y |
| 91 | Stockholm Resilience Centre | Y | N |
| 92 | The Climate Group | Y | Y |
| 93 | The Nature Conservancy (TNC) | Y | Y |
| 94 | The World Energy Council (WEC) | Y | Y |
| 95 | Third World Network (TWN) | Y | Y |
| 96 | Transparency International (TI) | Y | Y |
| 97 | Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research (UK) | Y | Y |
| 98 | United Nations Foundation (UNF) | Y | Y |
| 99 | Université catholique de Louvain (Belgium) | Y | N |
| 100 | University College London (UK) | Y | Y |
| 101 | University of Linköping (Sweden) | Y | Y |
| 102 | University of Nijmegen (Netherlands) | Y | Y |
| 103 | Wetlands International | Y | N |
| 104 | World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) | Y | Y |
| 105 | World Climate Research Centre (WCRP)** | Y | Y |
| 106 | World Coal Institute | Y | Y |
| 107 | World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) | Y | Y |
| 108 | World Resources Institute (WRI) | Y | Y |
| 109 | WWF International (WWF) | Y | Y |
| 110 | Yale University (USA) | Y | Y |

* GCOS, a UN joint undertaking of WMO, the IOC/UNESCO, UNEP and ICSU, has special status with respect to UNFCCC, and is invited to attend their meetings.

** WCRP, a UN joint undertaking of WMO, the IOC/UNESCO and ICSU.

TABLE 4 - List of IPCC Observer Entities (1)

| No. | Name of organization | Relevance to IPCC | Observer of UNFCCC |
|------------|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | Environment Quality Authority (EQA) of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) | Y | Y |

TABLE 5 – List of pending applications (1)

| NGOs pending applications (1) | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|---|------------|---|
| 1 | Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI), Hsinchu | Y | Y | L 13/03/08 | Y |

IPCC POLICY AND PROCESS FOR ADMITTING OBSERVER ORGANIZATIONS

**Adopted by the Panel at the Twenty-fifth Session (Mauritius, 26-28 April 2006),
Amended following the decision of the Thirty-first Session (Bali, 26-29 October 2009) and
Thirty-fifth Session (Geneva, 6-9 June 2012)**

I. Admission policy for observer organizations

The following policy for admitting observer organizations to Sessions of the IPCC and any of its Working Groups applies:

1. A body or an agency, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental, which is qualified in matters covered by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and which has informed the IPCC Secretariat of its wish to be represented at Sessions of the IPCC and any of its Working Groups, may be so admitted subject to acceptance by the Panel.
2. In judging whether an organization is "qualified in matters covered by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change" the Secretariat should be guided by the Principles Governing IPCC Work.
3. Organizations need to be non-profit organizations and are required to furnish proof of their non-profit and/or tax-exempt status in a State Member of the United Nations, of one of its specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, or in a State Party to the International Court of Justice.
4. Bodies and organizations, which are part of the UN System, are considered participating organizations of the IPCC and are not requested to submit an application or other documentation.
5. Organizations, which already have observer status with WMO, UNEP or UNFCCC, are considered as observer of the IPCC if they request so, subject to acceptance by the Panel. They are not required to submit other documentation.
6. Applications from national organizations will be brought to the attention of the IPCC Focal Point of that IPCC Member. They need to provide evidence of independence from governments. Otherwise, they are encouraged to participate as part of their government delegations.
7. Only admitted observer organizations may designate representatives to attend Sessions of the IPCC and Sessions of a Working Group at plenary level. Observer organizations have to register their representatives for each Session in advance.
8. The European Union (EU) may exercise the following procedural rights at IPCC Sessions: the right to speak in turn, rather than after all participant States have been acknowledged; the right to reply; the right to introduce proposals. These rights are exclusive. They do not grant the ability to vote or to be elected. Furthermore the EU will be allowed to provide comments in the Government/Expert review of IPCC Reports and Technical Papers and the final review stage of Summaries for Policymakers.

9. Being admitted as observer organization to Sessions of the Panel and of its Working Groups does not imply that the organization is admitted or invited to workshops, expert meetings and other closed meetings. During a Session of the Panel or a Working Group certain meetings may be closed to observers. Observer organizations are not admitted to any Session of the IPCC Bureau or Task Force Bureau.
10. Consistent with the IPCC procedures experts from “international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations may be invited in their own right to contribute to the work of the IPCC Working Groups and Task Forces.”
11. Subject to availability of sufficient space in the conference room UN and other international and intergovernmental organizations will be provided with nameplates.

II. Process of admitting observer organizations

For admitting observer organizations the following process applies:

1. Organizations interested in being admitted as an observer to Sessions of the Panel and any of its Working Groups will be asked to send by post a letter of application with copies of
 - a) Documents describing the mandate, scope and governing structure of the organization, such as the charter/statutes/constitution/by-laws or articles of association.
 - b) Evidence of the non-profit and/or tax-exempt status of the organization.
 - c) Any other information that supports the competence of the organization in matters related to the IPCC.
 - d) Information on the affiliation with other non-governmental organizations or institutions involved in climate change activities as appropriate.
 - e) Completed form with contact information of the organization and of a designated focal point.
2. New requests for admission as an observer to Sessions of the IPCC and any of its Working Groups shall be submitted at least 4 months before a Session of the Panel or a Working Group.
3. Organizations, which are already on the list of observers of the IPCC Secretariat and which have received invitations to Sessions of the IPCC and any of its Working Groups in the past, will be asked whether they wish to continue to receive invitations to Sessions of the Panel and any of its Working Groups on a provisional basis until the Panel has taken a decision, and if so, they will be asked to submit documentation listed under item 1 above.
4. The Secretariat will bring all requests for admission as observer organization to the attention of Members of the Panel at least 4 weeks before a Session of the Panel or Working Group.
5. The Secretariat will screen the submissions and make a proposal to be considered by the IPCC Bureau.
6. The list of observer organizations as reviewed by the IPCC Bureau will be presented to the next Session of the Panel for acceptance.
7. An organization is admitted as observer organization by the Panel by consensus.
8. Any organization accepted as observer organization by the IPCC may retain that observer status only as long as they satisfy the conditions set out for observer organizations.
9. The Secretariat of the IPCC maintains information on observer organizations.
10. The Secretariat shall extend invitations to Sessions of the Panel and its Working Groups to accepted observer organizations. The IPCC shall not provide financial assistance to the observers for participating in the IPCC process.
11. Admission of observer organizations will be included as a regular agenda item of Sessions of the IPCC Bureau and the Panel at the discretion of the Chair. The IPCC Bureau and the Panel shall review the list of accepted observer organizations annually.
12. If the observer status has to be withdrawn for any reason, the Chair may suspend the observer status of that organization subject to ratification by the Panel.